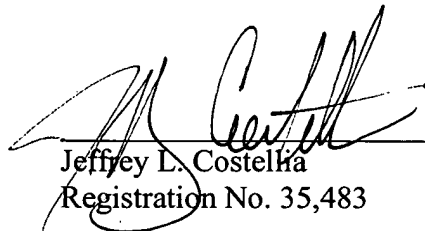


**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action of December 9, 2003, Applicants hereby elect without traverse, Group I, claims 1-7, drawn to method of manufacturing a semiconductor device, classified in class 438, subclass 166. Claim 8 is canceled. Claims 9-22 are added to recite additional features of the invention to which Applicants are entitled.

Consideration and allowance of the instant application are now respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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